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CHEMICAL INDUSTRY TO UTILIZE
THREE NEW MINERAL SPRINGS

Much emphasis will be placed on the further development of the chemical industry during the Five-Year Plan.

In addition to natural gas, crude oil, bauxite, and coal, the chemical industry has at its disposal three mineral springs, from which carbonic acid, table salt, and soda will be obtained. The spring located at Mihaly is already being utilized and is meeting the country's requirements of more than 2 million kilograms of carbonic acid per year. Formerly, 2,200,000 kilograms of coke was used to meet these needs. Utilization of the Mihaly spring saves 1,500,000 forints annually.

Another spring is located in the Nograd district and is in the vicinity of Soshartya. Its water contains 17 grams of table salt per liter, but more important from the point of the chemical industry, it contains 0.11 grams of sodium iodide and 0.14 grams of sodium bromide per liter. The National Chemical Institute stated that the spring is the fourth largest in the world as far as iodine content is concerned. Yearly requirements of Hungary for iodine are 2,000 to 3,000 kilograms. Further tests are in progress and plans for utilization of the spring will be established in the near future.

The third spring is located in Hevesmegye in the water of Bukkezek. This water also contains iodine and bromide. The Bukkezek spring puts out from 3,000 to 4,000 cubic meters of water daily. It contains 2.2 percent sodium hydrocarbonate and 0.5 percent of sodium chloride. According to present data, 25,000 tons of sodium and 5,000 tons of table salt can be extracted yearly. This would satisfy Hungary's requirements.

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